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INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., and for
PRIVATE RESIDENTS AT THE
OUTPOSTS
A Comprehensive and Complete
Record of the
NEWS OF THE FAR EAST
is given in the
HONGKONG WEEKLY
PRESS,
with which is incorporated the
CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT
Subscription, paid in advance,
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Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857

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FOR 1909.
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No. 15,863. 號三十大百八千五萬一第 日四初月二年元統宣 HONGKONG, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD, 1909. 二拜禮 號三十二月二年九零百九千一英港香 PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

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LARGE AND SMALL SIZES.
HOT or COLD beverages maintained at
original temperature for 24 hours.
INVALUABLE TO SPORTSMEN.
A.S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED,
ALEXANDRA-BUILDINGS.
[a30]

NEW PIANOS

ON HIRE
AT \$10 PER MONTH,
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REGULAR
ATTENTION
INCLUSIVE.

S. MOUTRIE & CO. LIMITED.

CHATER ROAD.
Hongkong, 1st October, 1908. [a40-1]

GREEN-ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY

PORTLAND CEMENT.
In Casks 375 lbs. net \$3.50 per cask ex Factory
In Bags 250 lbs. net \$3.45 per bag ex Factory
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 29th April, 1908. [a1647]

THE GRAND HOTEL.

DIVISION STREET, KOBE.
FIRST-CLASS CUISINE.
COMFORTABLE & AIRY BEDROOMS.
Situated in close proximity to the Harbour
and Railway Station.
BEST WINES AND LIQUORS SUPPLIED.
Special arrangements for a long stay.
F. DOMBALLE, Proprietor.
M. MAILLE, [a46]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY LIMITED.

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7.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
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1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.45 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
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8.45 p.m. & 9.00 p.m. 9.45 to 11.15 p.m.
every 1 hour.
Extra Cars at 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.
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11.00 a.m. to 12.00 Noon. Every 15 minutes.
12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
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7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS at 8.45 p.m. & 9.00 p.m. 9.45 to
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SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the
Company's Office, Alexandra Buildings, Des
Voeux Road Central.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong 9th May, 1907. [1374]

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. FOWNES' GLOVES.

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SOFT FELT HATS.

NEWEST STYLES IN
STRAW HATS.

SMART SHAPES IN
"WALK OVER" BOOTS.

"AQUASCUTUM" RAINCOATS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
Hongkong, 13th February, 1909. [a33]

TRADE MARK
The GOLD MEDAL for Quality in the
Franco-British Exhibition has been awarded to
"WHITE HORSE"
WHISKY.
To His Majesty
THE KING
By Royal
Appointment.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.
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MACKIE & CO. DISTILLERS LTD.
LAGAVULIN DISTILLERY, ISLAY.
MAINT-MILL
ORANGELACHIE " GLENLIVET
Estab. 1742.
Quality
the Secret of
Success.
\$15 PER DOZ.
NOTE.—Any persons proved guilty of re-filling our empty bottles with inferior Whisky
will be refused supplies. [a34]

THE KEY OF WATKINS' DISPENSARY

Has been thrown into the Rubbish Heap!
Why? Because the establishment will be open
DAY AND NIGHT
FROM YEAR END TO YEAR END
AND QUALIFIED ENGLISH CHEMISTS
will always be on DUTY to
DISPENSE DRUGS AND PREPARE PRESCRIPTIONS.
WATKINS LTD.,
CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS,
31, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
HONGKONG.
Night and Day Telephone: 492.
NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR NIGHT SERVICE.
Hongkong, 13th February, 1909. [a39]

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WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS
LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.
ESTABLISHED 1815.

BRANDY	★★★★	-	-	-	For Cas.	\$22.50
"	★★★★	-	-	-		20.00
"	★★	-	-	-		17.00
WHISKY, PALL MALL	-	-	-	-		20.00
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" OLD HIGHLAND	-	-	-	-		
" G. P. & CO'S SPECIAL	-	-	-	-		
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BENEDICTINE, D.O.M.	-	-	-	-	Qrs. 40.00 Pts. 42.00	

THE ABOVE ARE EXCLUSIVELY SHIPPED TO
SIEMSEN & CO.,
HONGKONG AGENTS.
[a51]

"POLO" BRAND SCOTCH WHISKY.

(HOME BOTTLED)
\$15.00 PER DOZEN.
SOLE AGENTS—
CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
15, Queen's Road Central. [a35]
Hongkong, 29th January, 1909.

C. LAZARUS & COMPANY, 60 AND 61, BENTINCK STREET, CALCUTTA. BILLIARD TABLE MANUFACTURERS.

THE STANDARD INDIAN BILLIARD TABLE,

Complete with all Accessories for Billiards and packed for Shipment.
R. .460.

C. LAZARUS & CO., CALCUTTA.

NOTICES OF FIRMS

NOTICE.
MR. GUMELSINDO, JESUS
SEQUERIA is authorised to Sign
my Firm per Procuration from This Date.
A. R. MARTY.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1909. [327]

NOTICE.
MR. WILLIAM JAMES WADDILOVE
has been appointed our Manager at
Hongkong, covering the various Districts of
Manchuria, and will Sign our Firm per
Procuration from the 10th day of February,
1909.
BUSH BROTHERS.
Newchwang, 4th February, 1909. [354]

INTIMATIONS

CHARLES CHALONER TAPPS
DECEASED.
CHILDREN or Grand Children of JOSEPH
THOMAS TAPPS (died 9 March, 1889)
and of his Wife ELIZABETH H. TAPPS (died 24th
June, 1874) both of Chatham and Rochester,
Kent, England, and Children of the above
mentioned CHARLES CHALONER TAPPS (died
at Hastings, England, 25th February, 1908),
are requested to communicate with Messrs.
MERRELLS and THIRLBY, 3, Mitre
Court Temple London, England, Solicitors to
the Administrators of the said CHARLES
CHALONER TAPPS deceased. [a42]

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

FLOWER SHOW.
IN THE BOTANIC GARDENS.
FRIDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY.
Open 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Admission \$1.
Mrs. MAY has kindly consented to distribute
the Prizes at 5 p.m.
SATURDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY.
Open 10.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission 50 cts.
3 p.m. to 6 p.m. 20 cts.
It will be obtainable on the Grounds.
By kind permission of Major EVANS and
Officers, the Band of the 13th Regt. will play
on both days from 2.30 to 6 p.m.
L. GIBBS,
Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 20th February, 1909. [356]

ALEXANDRA CINEMATOGRAPH

ZETLAND STREET, BELOW MASONIC HALL.
TO-NIGHT AND EVERY EVENING.
SELECT PROGRAMME.
Hours 9 to 11 p.m.
ADMISSION \$1.20, 80 cts. and 50 cts.
Hongkong, 22nd January, 1909. [224]

SINGON & CO.

IRON, STEEL, METAL AND HARD-
WARE MERCHANTS. Wholesale
and Retail Ironmongers, Pig Iron, and
Foundry Castings. General Store-
keepers and Shipchangers. Nos. 55 & 57, HING
LOONG STREET, (2nd Street, west of Central
Market) Telephone No. 515. [660]

HOTELS HONGKONG HOTEL

FIRST-CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.
Dining accommodation for 300 Persons.
String Band Plays during Tiffin and Dinner.
Well Furnished Reception Rooms.
Private Bar and Billiard Room for Hotel
Residents.
Electric Lifts to each Floor.
Electric Lighting and Fans.
Telephones on every Floor.
Every Comfort.
Ladies' Afternoon Tea Rooms.
Ladies' Cloak Rooms.
Malron in attendance.
CHARGES MODERATE, AND NO EXTRAS.
A. F. DAVIES, Manager.
[a42]

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.
Ladies' Afternoon Tea-Rooms.
Private Bar and Billiard-Rooms.
Hot and Cold Water throughout.
Electrically Lighted; Electric Fans (if
required).
Electric Passenger Elevator to each floor.
Table D'Hôte at separate tables.
For Terms, &c., apply to the
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 24th July, 1905. [a235]

"KINGSCLERE," PRIVATE HOTEL.

APPROACH FROM KENNEDY ROAD AND
MACDONNELL ROAD.
Telephone No. 134.
Telegraphic Address: "SACHSOLA."
A.B.C. Code, 5th Ed.
ELECTRIC LIGHT, Hot and Cold Water
throughout. Billiards, Tennis, Croquet,
putting green and fine stabling for horses.
Proprietress, Mrs. G. SACHSE.
[a45]

"BRAESIDE," PRIVATE HOTEL.

STANDING in its own grounds with Tennis
and Croquet Lawns, Large Airy and
Well Furnished Rooms, every home comfort.
Fine View of the Harbour.
Telephone No. 690.
Apply to— Mrs. F. W. WATTS,
"Braeside," 20, Macdonnell Road.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [a44]

ORIENTAL HOTEL

TELEPHONE 197.
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Mrs. M. MATTHEW, Proprietress.
A thoroughly First-Class and Up-to-Date Hotel

Large and Airy Rooms, affording every comfort
to Residents and Tourists.
Table D'Hôte at Separate Tables.
MODERATE RATES.
Telegraphic address: "Comfort," Hongkong.
For Particulars, apply to
M. MATTHEW,
Proprietress.
Hongkong, 5th October, 1908. [a43]

"BOA VISTA" (HOTEL-SANITARIUM OF SOUTH CHINA). MACAO.

THE Hotel is under European manage-
ment and most strict supervision as to
food, cleanliness and hygiene of the place.
All comforts of a home.
A most pleasant retreat for those desirous of
a few days rest and quiet.
Comfortable accommodation for travellers
paying a visit to the historical and picturesque
colony of Macao.
Macao is 40 miles southwest of Hongkong.
Two steamers (s.s. *Sas An* and *Sui Tai*) daily to
and from Hongkong, and two steamers to and
from Canton, give easy communication with
both these centres.
Cable Address: "BOAVISTA."
For Terms, apply to
THE MANAGER.
[a156]

VICTORIA HOTEL

SHAMSHEN-CANTON.
MANAGER—MR. H. HAYNES.
Telegraphic address: "VICTORIA, SHAMSHEN."
SITUATED ON THE BRITISH CONCESSED
TERRITORY.

MACAO HOTEL.

MACAO.
MANAGER—MR. H. N. BEAUREPAIRE.
Telegraphic address: "FARMER, MACAO."
SITUATED IN THE CENTRE OF PRATA GRANDE
Both Hotels electrically lighted, and under
experienced European Supervision.
GUIDES AND CHAISE PROVIDED.
Every Information and Special Attention given
to Tourists.
REASONABLE RATES.
WM. FARMER,
Proprietor.
[a1623]

HOTEL RIPOSO.

BEKKILLON-SEA.
THE attention of intending visitors to Eng-
land is courteously directed to the above
private Hotel, widely renowned for comfort,
and its excellent English catering and cooking.
It adjoins good Golf Links and overlooks Sea
on South and West. Climate sunny and
bracing. Terms from 8/- per day inclusive.
Resident Proprietress Mrs. Gibson. [266]

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LIMITED.

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VIN BRUT AND VERY DRY.

PER CASE 1 DOZ. QUARTS.

PRICE - - - - \$52.00

PER CASE 2 DOZ. PINTS.

PRICE - - - - \$54.00

CHAMPAGNE

DE ST. MARCEAUX & Co.,

is the most Popular Wine in England and Europe To-day and invariably figures on the Menus of Banquets, Dinners, and Suppers given by Reigning Monarchs, Ministers of State, Merchant Guilds, Sporting Clubs, &c., &c.

SOLE AGENTS:-

A. S. WATSON & CO.
LIMITED.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1909.

[29]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Onyx communications relating to the news should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supply for Cash. Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of paper only.

No anonymously signed communications that have already appeared in other papers will be inserted.

Orders for extra copies of DAILY PRESS should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supply for Cash. Telegraphic Address: PRESS. Codes: A.B.C. 5th Ed. Lister. P. O. Box, 34. Telephone No. 12.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD C LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 23RD 1909.

THOUGH there were no clear signs of trade revival apparent when the Chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation addressed the shareholders last August Mr. SHILLIM considered there was justification for taking a hop full view of the future, as cheap money and diminishing stocks were factors which were bound sooner or later to bring about a commercial revival. No institution is in a better position in the East than the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to feel the pulse of trade, and, at the meeting of shareholders on Saturday the Chairman had the satisfaction of stating that although trade in the Far East during the past six months had not been altogether satisfactory he regarded the hopeful view of the prospects taken at the last meeting as having been justified. And now, with a healthier tone noticeable, with business generally on a sounder basis, stocks of imports being gradually reduced, crops good, renewed commercial activity throughout America, and money plentiful and cheap in Europe, the Chairman regarded the time as ripe for a return to prosperity and the commencement of a new period of expansion in trade. That will be welcome news not only to shareholders of the Bank but to the public generally. In spite of the restricted trade of the past six months the Bank has managed to do exceedingly well, and as Mr. Ross remarked in concluding the adoption of the Report and Accounts: "If this be the result of a half-year of dull and restricted

trade, what indeed may be expected when the tide of prosperity again flows in the Far East!" It is satisfactory to observe that the note of optimism is not absent from the addresses of Chairmen of other Companies in the Colony. Times have been had for most concerns, and misfortune in the form of typhoons has added to the difficulties of the position in the case of estate and wharf and shipping companies, so that the stocks of such companies are generally quoted much below what they were five years ago. But, as we have remarked, a more hopeful view of the future has been taken at most meetings of shareholders that have yet taken place. Mr. ROBERT SHAWMAN when presiding at the meeting of shareholders of the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd., was particularly emphatic in the expression of his belief that better days are at hand in the Colony when "those who have had faith in Hongkong and its fortunes will reap their reward." Certainly there is no need to be pessimistic about the future of the Colony. As Mr. SHAWMAN said, the resources and facilities of the port of Hongkong as a depot for the trade of South China are still untouched and unrivalled, and will be enormously increased when once communication by rail is opened up with the great cities of the interior. There can be no doubt of that, and meanwhile with trade reviving throughout the world, and with the improving prospects of business in China following upon exceptionally good harvests, and with plenty of money waiting the expected revival of trade, there seems ample justification for the confidence which is generally felt that prosperous times are about to return.

The present Criminal Sessions at the Supreme Court of Hongkong are noteworthy for the number of cases of armed robbery which the Judge and Jury have been called upon to try. Out of the eleven cases set down for trial no less than nine are cases of this description. The exemplary sentences which His Honour the Chief Justice has passed on the prisoners found guilty will meet with general public approval. Five years' imprisonment in each case was the measure of punishment meted out for these dastardly crimes and in addition the Chief Justice ordered the convicted prisoners to be flogged with twenty four strokes—excepting in the case of one who looked "a poor sort of creature" who did not seem able to stand much flogging, and he was let off with twelve strokes. It may be hoped that these sentences will effectually put a stop to armed robbery in the Colony. Fortunately it has not been very ripe in Hongkong of late years, and the extraordinary succession of such crimes just before Chinese New Year was surprising. It may be hoped that the sentences passed at the Assizes yesterday will have the desired deterrent effect.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Scott returned to Shanghai from Tientsin on the 17th inst.

At a general meeting of the Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation Ltd., a dividend of Rs. 300 per share on the original issue and Rs. 75 per share on the third issue was declared.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the birthday of George Washington, an event which was marked by the warships in the harbour hoisting the American flag.

The period of State mourning in China expired on Saturday, and the Board of the Interior by proclamation commanded all people to have their heads shaved on that day.

The Chinese Government, it is stated, will shortly open Lien Shan in the Gulf of Pechili about 200 li north of Shanghai as a free port. The harbour is ice-free, and could, it is declared, be made superior to Dalay.

It is interesting to note the revival of the use of the birch rod, as many as five prisoners being ordered by the Chief Justice yesterday to be birched in addition to their sentences of imprisonment.

The schedule for the 1909 Flower and Vegetable Show, arranged by the Hongkong Horticultural Society to take place at the Botanic Gardens on Friday and Saturday next is now issued. There are 95 classes.

Messrs. Hughes & Hough desire us to mention that they are selling Mr. Humphreys' furniture up to lot No. 242 to-morrow, the 24th inst., and the sale will be resumed on the following day at 11 a.m. with lot No. 243.

The plague return for the week ending 20th inst. places the total cases at three, two of which proved fatal. The return of other communicable diseases for the same period shows one case of diphtheria, two of enteric fever and an imported case of small-pox.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Shanghai Samatra Tobacco Co., Ltd. held on the 17th inst. it was decided to recommend that, at the approaching annual meeting, a final dividend of 25 per cent. making 40 per cent. for the year, should be declared.

The police are looking for a boy who stole a number of articles from the military barracks in Queen's Road. Apparently he had been caught last week but he was beaten and allowed to go.

By advertisement in another column the Sanitary Department earnestly requests the co-operation of householders in the destruction of rats and intimates that rat poison, rat traps and bird lime can be obtained free of charge from the officers of the Department.

A marine from H.M.S. Bedford reports to the police that between Sunday night and Monday morning he was robbed, probably by a rishia coolie, of a Benson silver watch valued at eight guineas, a double gold curb watch chain, and a gold stone in the form of a Freemason's emblem, in all worth about eighteen guineas.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 21st February, 1909 shows that of non-Chinese there were 252 to the Library and 139 to the Museum and of Chinese 148 to the former and 8,576 to the latter. The Library was, therefore, used by 400 persons and the Museum by 8,715.

Chinese Public Opinion states that the number of the mines, working or preparing to work, in Fengtien Province is as follows:—Gold, 55; silver, 5; copper, 9; iron, 7; lead, 9; coal, 85; graphite, 1; glass sand, 2; stone 3; making a total of 176, of which about 50 are working, the others having already been granted licenses.

The Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs have just published their annual list of light-houses, light vessels, buoys and beacons on the coast and rivers of China. The total number of these lights is now 408. A number of charts show the position and kind of lights, and the letter-press gives much detailed information of great value to navigators in Chinese waters.

The Local Representative of the National Children's Home, London, begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following sums:—

Wesleyan Church, Hongkong ... \$32.00
Collected by Miss E. Baker ... \$30.35
Yule-Tide Quartette: Part proceeds of carolling ... \$64.75

The Bandmann Company on their return visit to Hongkong will play at the Theatre for six nights, commencing on Saturday next when Mr. A. W. Pinero's great play "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" will be presented. The other plays for the first five nights in March are set out in the advertisement which appears in another column. So successful was the company's recent season in Hongkong that full houses every night may be expected on their return to the Colony.

A proposal to admit lady players as unofficial members of the Kobe Golf Club on payment of an annual subscription of 5 yen was considered, at a special meeting of members and rejected by 22 votes to 11. A resolution to allow ladies to use the links on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays after 4 p.m. was also rejected by 26 votes to 9. Mr. Hunsell, who moved these resolutions, declared the result to be "another exhibition of Kobe selfishness," and said he believed there was not another links in the world where ladies were not admitted.

Members of the Congregation and others who are interested in the welfare of the St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, are reminded of the social gathering to be held in the School house of the Kowloon British School this evening at 9 o'clock. There will be a musical programme and light refreshments will be served. During the proceedings the presentation of the Chaplain's House which has been built and furnished through the munificence of Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., will be made. All are cordially invited and evening dress is not necessary.

LOCAL SPORT.

A.A.A. CROSS-COUNTRY RUN.

The second run in connection with the Broke Cross-Country Challenge Cup is to take place at Kowloon on Sunday over a course starting from the Association's track. It is to be hoped that the event will bring forth more starters than on the occasion of the previous run.

BUFFS' GYMKHANA.

The Buffs are holding a Regimental Race meeting on Saturday. Entries closed on Saturday last and we understand that a very satisfactory list has been obtained. There are to be six events, viz. a pole soursy; races for a Regimental Cup, a Jockey Club Cup, United Service Cup, Subalterns' Cup, and a Ladies' Bracelet.

LEAGUE CRICKET.

Wednesday—R.G.A. v. R.E.
Saturday—H.K.C.C. "A" v. H.K.C.C. "B"
R.E. v. Police.

CRICKET.

PARDEES V. MOSLEMS.
The Parses' second eleven, captained by Mr. M. F. Billimoria, defeated the Moslem Cricket Club on Sunday afternoon, on the Civil Service Ground by one wicket and 24 runs.

CATHEDRAL CHOIR CONCERT.

The concert given by the Choir of St. John's Cathedral on behalf of the organ fund was repeated in presence of a good house last night in the City Hall. The programme was practically the same as before, but unfortunately Miss Brotherton Harkness was unable to fulfil her engagement. The concert was thoroughly enjoyed.

TELEGRAMS.

[Protected by the Telegraphic Message Copyright Ordinance, 1894.]

["DAILY PRESS" EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.]

JAPANESE FISHING INDUSTRY AT HAWAII.

Tokyo, February 22nd.

Mr. Saito, Head of the Emigration Bureau, stated in an interview that it is well-known to be illegal for aliens to fish in American waters, but if Japanese are barred from fishing (at Hawaii?) the industry will be at a standstill.

Mr. Saito, who was formerly Consul at Honolulu, thinks there is no likelihood of the Bills being passed.

WARSHIPS DAMAGED.

Tokyo, February 22nd.

The Japanese battleship "Fuji" and the cruiser "Tokiwa" have been damaged by striking sunken rocks at Kagoshima.

The damage sustained by the battleship is serious.

[BRUTER'S SERVICE TO THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

TANG SHAO YI IN PARIS.

LONDON, February 21st.

President Fallières has received H.E. Tang Shao Yi and suite.

HAWAII AND JAPAN.

LONDON, February 21st.

A Bill has been introduced into the American Senate to prohibit aliens from fishing in Hawaiian waters.

Sir T. Kato, the Japanese Ambassador to London, in an interview accorded to Reuter's representative, said Japan meant to be one of the dominant Powers in the Pacific, but had no wish to encroach on the rights of others. Japan, he said, possessed no interests in Hawaii or the Philippines which clashed with those of America.

THE PORTE AND BULGARIA.

LONDON, February 21st.

Reuter's correspondent at Constantinople states that the Porte has circularised the Powers pointing out that the reception of Ferdinand of Bulgaria with Royal honours at St. Petersburg would be in derogation of the European understanding that Bulgaria's independence must first be recognised by Turkey.

LONDON, February 22nd.

The Russian Ambassador (at Constantinople?) has explained that the reception given to Ferdinand of Bulgaria as King was merely a matter of courtesy and expediency and did not affect the diplomatic position.

EARTHQUAKES AND TIDES.

LONDON, February 22nd.

The famous French astronomer, M. Flammarion, has announced undulations in the earth's crust coinciding with the tides which he had long surmised. Measurements by the Potsdam Observatory show a variation amounting to eight inches.

AMERICAN BATTLESHIP FLEET RETURNED.

LONDON, February 22nd.

The American Battleship Fleet has returned to Hampton Roads. President Roosevelt reviews the Fleet to-day.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOK SAN PO."]

A THREATENED REBELLION.

PEKING, February 22nd.

The Chinese Minister at Tokyo has sent a telegram to the Throne reporting that several members of the Anti-Manchu Society are proceeding to Kirin in Manchuria with a view to raising a rebellion there. He asks the Throne to send orders to the Viceroy of Manchuria to be on the lookout for the rebels.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, February 22nd.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR FRANCIS PIGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

BIG LIST OF CASES.

The February Criminal Sessions opened yesterday, the list containing eleven cases, nine of which were for armed robbery.

BREAKING AND ENTERING.

Chan Chi was indicted on the charge of breaking and entering the dwelling of one Indar Singh, at 18, Temple Street, Yaumati. Prisoner admitted entering the house, but denied going there with intent to commit armed robbery.

The Attorney-General, who was instructed by Mr. Deany, Jun., from the office of the Crown Solicitor, informed His Lordship that on the day of the robbery the two inmates left the house at about seven p.m. One of the men returned at nine o'clock, to find the door, which had been securely fastened, broken open, and the prisoner and two other men looting the house. One of the Indians immediately seized the prisoner, who made several cuts on him with a knife, which did not appear to be of a serious character. The other two men escaped, but the Indian retained the prisoner and took him to the police station where certain of the stolen property was found in his possession.

His Lordship—What is the special evidence with regard to the armed robbery?

The Attorney-General—The prisoner is charged with breaking and entering.

His Lordship passed sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

CUTTING AND WOUNDING.

Leung Tai was arraigned on a charge of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Prisoner pleaded not guilty and the following jurors were called: Messrs. J. Ramsay (foreman), F. P. de V. Soares, H. E. Soriven, L. A. Rose, A. Ritchie, H. W. Schiersberg and H. B. Davidson.

The Attorney-General told the jurors the prisoner was before the Court on a charge of maliciously wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. The affair, apparently, was the result of some petty quarrel and took place on board the steamer "Kum Sang." The prosecutor was a deck boy on that ship, while defendant was a seaman. The boy would state that on the day in question he had a conversation with the prisoner in relation to twenty cents which the prisoner owed him. The latter retorted that he had already paid the money at Calcutta. In the dispute which followed the prisoner attacked prosecutor with a knife and stabbed him several times. This story of the boy would be corroborated by two other witnesses. After inflicting these wounds the prisoner let himself down by a rope on to a sampan and was about to leave when the sampan was called back by the third officer and the prisoner taken into custody. Regarding the wounds, the doctor would state that prosecutor was in a very critical condition from loss of blood for a few hours. Before the Magistrate the prisoner made practically an admission of the charge, but alleged that the prosecutor first attacked him with an iron bar.

His Lordship remarked that the witnesses who had left by the steamer had given their recognizances. The Attorney-General said he understood that the agents had communicated with the magistrate, and the magistrate said he did not think it was necessary for them to stop.

His Lordship—I think the magistrate has made a mistake.

The Attorney-General—It appears in the original depositions at the outset that the prisoner pleaded guilty.

His Lordship said the magistrate was *functus officio* after he had made the inquiry, therefore he would not retract the recognizance.

The jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty, and prisoner was sentenced to three years' hard labour.

ARMED ROBBERY.

Han Tak and Ho Kwong were indicted on a charge of armed robbery at Yaumati on January 2nd. The same jurors sat as in the previous case.

The first prisoner pleaded guilty, but said he only got \$4 of the proceeds.

The second man tendered a similar plea, remarking that his share of the proceeds was between \$3 and \$4.

The Attorney-General—This is really a bad case, and I think it right to tell the facts to your Lordship.

His Lordship—It is not armed robbery, is it? The Attorney-General—Yes, my Lord. Proceeding to give the facts of the case, the Attorney-General said the prisoners were in company of four other men who had not been arrested. The woman who lived in the house was there alone with her small boy when two men called and started talking to her about renting a house. Then they pushed her inside, threatened her with knives, and tied her hands. She stated that one tied her hands and both asked for money. Four other men then entered the house, being shortly afterwards followed by two more. These women were seized and gagged, then the men ransacked the place at their pleasure and got away. The witnesses were tied together with wire.

His Lordship—Is there any evidence that these two men were armed?

The Attorney-General—There is no particular evidence that these two were. The witnesses say that all the men were armed.

His Lordship—According to the Ordinance the persons convicted must be proved to have been armed.

The Attorney-General said his reason for framing the indictment under section 2 and not

under section 1 was that it was capable of proof of acts of violence under section 2, and also of proving that there were two or more persons.

His Lordship sentenced each of the accused to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive a flogging of 24 strokes.

A BORDER CASE.

The same jurors heard the charge of armed robbery preferred against Li Kam Fuk, the prisoner pleading not guilty.

The Attorney-General informed the jury that this affair took place at Tsaukeng village at about midnight on January 14th. The prosecutor, a woman, was in the house with a little girl of seven. She said her house was broken into and she was violently assaulted by four men, who tore her silver bangles off her arms. At the time, prosecutor says, prisoner was standing at the door keeping watch. The evidence of the prosecution was based on the statement of the woman herself, but the prisoner, when charged by the police, in his statement admitted that he stood at the door and watched. It was right that the Attorney-General should tell the jurors that the accused made a long statement before the magistrate in which he denied his former statement, and accused the police of causing him to make that statement by force. This the sergeant accused denied.

The jury, without retiring, found the prisoner guilty.

His Lordship—You are sentenced to five years' hard labour. You look a poor sort of creature, and I don't know that you can stand much flogging, but you must have twelve strokes.

THE ARMED ROBBERY IN COCHRANE STREET.

(Chan Lai was arraigned on the charge of committing armed robbery with certain persons not in custody at 16, Cochrane Street, on the 5th inst.)

Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and his case was heard by the same jurors.

The Attorney-General informed the Court and jury that this case of armed robbery took place at 16, Cochrane Street, in the city, on the 5th of the present month. The case was quite a simple one: the prisoner, in company with another man, went to the house mentioned, which was a place where there was a coolies' mess. This was at 11.30 in the morning, when all the coolies were out with the exception of the cook. He would state that two men entered, caught hold of him, tied his hands and legs and gagged him, while, as usual a third man was watching at the door. The robbers then took all they could discover in the place and departed. As soon as they got out, prosecutor apparently freed his legs, and with his hands tied behind went out and gave chase. He saw the first man running and carrying a box. There was a policeman in the vicinity, and No. 1 dropped the box and ran, but was arrested. It appeared an extremely clear case, and the prisoner in his statement admitted carrying the box, but stated that he had been asked by other people to do so.

The jury returned a verdict of guilty, and the accused was sentenced to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive a flogging of 24 strokes.

THE ROBBERY IN YAUMATI BAY.

Hung Tik Un and Pung Chai appeared to answer a charge of armed robbery in Yaumati Bay near Mongkok on January 13th, and both defendants pleaded guilty, the first defendant stating that he committed the crime because the prosecutor owed him money.

The Attorney-General stated this was precisely the position No. 1 took up before the Magistrate. Apparently he asserted some sort of claim or right because of the fact that he was formerly a partner in the junk. Prosecutor denied that he had any sort of claim in it whatever.

His Lordship—What are the facts?

The Attorney-General said this offence was committed at about 9.30 o'clock on the 13th January while the junk was lying off Mongkok. The master of the junk said that the first prisoner formerly had a small share in the craft, but at the time of the robbery he had no interest whatever; all his claim had been satisfied. Prosecutor was away from the junk on the day in question, and when he returned he found that his vessel had been boarded by thieves and a box containing \$140 in subsidiary coin and a quantity of clothing stolen. Some of the stolen property was subsequently discovered, having been pawned by the second defendant, and this property was identified by prosecutor. As to the robbery, there were three witnesses who spoke definitely as to three men going on board, two armed with knives and the other with a firearm. A fourth man was lying alongside. Those on board warned not to make any noise, showed into the hold, and the articles mentioned stolen.

His Lordship—There is no question about this being an armed robbery?

The Attorney-General—No, they have pleaded guilty.

His Lordship, after telling the first defendant that he was not sure whether his defence did not make his offence worse, sentenced each prisoner to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and to receive 24 strokes of the birch.

The Chief Justice then thanked the jurors empanelled, and told them that they need not return again until to-morrow (Wednesday).

ACCIDENT TO THE "EMPEROR OF CHINA."

We are informed that the *Empress of China* which left here on the 13th inst. went aground when passing through the Inland Sea of Japan. Upon arrival at Kobe it was found that she had sustained damage to her bottom plating which will necessitate repairs being effected before she can proceed on her voyage to Vancouver.

Our Tokyo correspondent telegraphs that the accident happened on Friday near Matsuyama, and that docking at Kobe delayed the steamer day.

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Hongkong, 23rd February, 1909.

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* TIENTSIN	"CHIPSANG"	Friday, 26th Febr., 4 P.M.
* MANILA	"YUENSANG"	Friday, 26th Febr., 4 P.M.
* SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE & MOJI	"KUTSANG"	Tuesday, 2nd March, Noon
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Hongkong, 17th February, 1909.

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VICTORIA, B.C. and SEATTLE, via SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, and YOKOHAMA	TAMBA MARU Capt. C. H. Butler	6134	WEDNESDAY, 17th March, at Daylight
SYDNEY and MELBOURNE, via MANILA, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE and BRISBANE	KAGA MARU Capt. G. S. Lapraik	6301	TUESDAY, 2nd March, at Noon
SHANGHAI, MOJI and BOMBAY via SINGAPORE and COLOMBO	TOKA MARU Capt. T. Harrison	5827	TUESDAY, 16th March, at Noon
NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	NIKKO MARU Capt. M. Yagi	5539	FRIDAY, 19th March, at Noon
	KIMANO MARU Capt. N. Mathieson	5076	FRIDAY, 16th April, at Noon
	TAKASAKI MARU Capt. A. Mosker	4370	TUESDAY, 23rd February, at Noon
	MOYORI MARU Capt. J. C. Richards	3265	THURSDAY, 4th March, at Noon
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Hongkong, 22nd February, 1909.

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